



The Empowerment Project

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN FITCH

October 11, 2024

A Note from AG Lynn Fitch

This month, we celebrated the first anniversary of Mississippi Access to Maternal Assistance (MAMA), a free website and mobile app that connects pregnant women and mothers to private, public, and faith-based resources available across Mississippi. Since my office launched the MAMA website in October 2023, over 15,000 individuals have visited the website and nearly 500 users have downloaded the mobile app, which went live earlier this year.

Our state is blessed with countless resources, but it can be challenging to navigate while also adjusting to a changing family. MAMA is just one of the ways that Mississippi is helping to stand in the gap to both empower women and promote life. I am grateful for this opportunity to show women that they are not alone. We care about their wellbeing and success and want to see their family flourish.

In 2023, I worked with the Mississippi State Legislature to establish MAMA (SB 2781). It is a key component of The Empowerment Project, my initiative to empower women and their children everywhere. Since launching The Empowerment Project, the Mississippi Legislature has passed nearly a dozen of my priorities. I am looking forward to the 2025 Legislative Session to continue our work supporting families across our State.

I was honored to join the Senate Study Group on Women, Children, and Families last week to discuss The Empowerment Project and provide a preview of my legislative priorities in the 2025 Session. You can read my full testimony here and watch a video of the hearing here. We have made a lot of progress, but the work to support women and their children with this Empowerment Project agenda is only just beginning.



Testifying before the Senate Study Group on Women, Children, and Families on October 2, 2024

May God Bless You,

WHAT WE'RE READING



WDAM: Group of Local Women Fundraising to Bring Safe Haven Baby Box to Hub City

A small group of Lamar County women are organizing the fundraiser after the Hattiesburg City Council approved an agreement to pave the way for the box in the Hub City. Safe Haven Baby Boxes allow women to surrender their newborns safely and anonymously.

“I’ve always been passionate about family wellness, resources for women and care for children,” said group member Britney Diaz-Roman. The group says the project cannot start until \$20,000 is raised to make the box.

“There’s a lot of women who are unsure of the resources they have for themselves, and that there are people here they have looking out for them,” said Diaz-Roman.

Mississippi Today: AG Urges Lawmakers to Enact Paid Maternity Leave for State Employees

There are around 85,000 state employees – including public school teachers and staff and faculty from public universities and colleges – and tens of thousands of Mississippi women could benefit from legislation offering paid

maternity leave.

It's a critical workforce issue, [Attorney General Lynn] Fitch said in response to a question from Sen. Nicole Boyd, R-Oxford, and it could be the deciding factor for someone choosing between a private sector job and a public sector job.

“This is a great tool, a great resource, to have these women in public service and to keep them there,” she said.

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mississippi access to maternal assistance

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Lynn Fitch
ATTORNEY GENERAL

*Connecting Mississippi
women & families to resources.*

Visit MAMA.MS.GOV or download the app in the [Apple Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#) and show your support by sharing this social post!

ATTORNEY GENERAL LYNN
FITCH IN THE NEWS



WTVA: Mississippi sues TikTok accusing it of being addictive, hurting kids

"TikTok knows it maximizes profit by addicting children to its platform, and it knows that feeding them increasingly extreme and disturbing videos keeps children hooked," said **Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch**. "All the while, TikTok gives parents the false impression this is safe for their children," added Fitch.

WLOX: Attorney General, 'One Pill Can Kill' Initiative Come to Gulf Coast

"In our country alone, the DEA was able to confiscate enough illegal fentanyl-laced drugs to kill every American," **Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch said**. "To bring awareness to the dangers, the Attorney General started the 'One Pill Can Kill' initiative, using key speakers to highlight the dangers and train people on how to use opioid overdose kits."

Clarion Ledger: Women Discuss Leadership Roles at Mississippi AG Fitch's Women's Summit

If there was anything women leaders communicated Monday during a Women's Summit hosted by **Mississippi Attorney General Lynn Fitch**, it was that women have both a seat at the table and the means to become successful, active participants in their communities.

On Monday, about 400 people attended a Women's Summit at the Oxford Conference Center on Ed Perry Boulevard, featuring several panels of women discussing their roles as leaders in government, nonprofits in Jackson, owning and running companies and how they have navigated those settings among their male counterparts, among others.

Magnolia Tribune: Fitch, other AGs want Surgeon General warning on social media

Attorney General Lynn Fitch and 41 other attorneys general sent a letter to Congress calling on lawmakers to require a U.S. Surgeon General warning on all algorithm-driven social media platforms. The AG's office said in a statement that the letter comes amidst growing scrutiny of social media companies for their role in generational harm to young people's mental health.

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